

## TIMES-UNION NOW "TAINTING TAINTED" NEWS

The Times-Union—the corporation bible of Florida—having printed "tainted" news and "tainted" editorials until the whole State reeks from the odor of such noxious publication, has gone farther in the work of contaminating the public mind by "tainting" the "tainted" news.

In the Times-Union of last Sunday, the railroad chattel spread poison in the department "People's Forum," by printing a petition prepared by a committee of railway supply manufacturers, signing it "Workingman," and dating it "Jacksonville, Fla., May 11," when the same petition was written in Chicago at a convention of the railway supply manufacturers last month.

A copy of this petition was mailed to the members of the Florida Legislature, and Mr. Richbourg of the House took the circular to Mr. Morgan of the Railroad Commission, asking him to render an opinion as to the arguments set forth. Mr. Morgan replied, demolishing the arguments set forth in the petition. Chairman Burr also indorsed the opinion of Mr. Morgan and added other reasons showing the fallacy of the statements in the petition.

The petition and the letters of Messrs. Morgan and Burr were printed in THE SUN May 4.

The Times-Union takes the petition, uses the first line thereof as caption, adds the line, "Editor Times-Union," signs it "Workingman," and sends it forth on its errand of deceit, "Workingman," in his haste, forgetting to change the phraseology, as for instance, "We, the undersigned."

THE SUN submits in parallel columns sufficient of the article to show that it was stolen from the petition of the railway literary bureau, and the remainder of the article reads word for word with the corporation circular:

(From the Railway Literary Bureau, Chicago.)

To the American Public:

Business is good. Shall it continue?

Fact 1. Business has been and is prosperous. There is apparently no commercial reason why we should not enjoy a continuance of such prosperity unless some unnecessary conditions intervene.

Fact 2. The National Government has been and is investigating the railroads. The State Legislatures have pending 400 bills, none of which is for the benefit of the railroad, but every one of which is designed to reduce in some way the net earnings of the roads. Many village and town authorities are passing ordinances which interfere with the operation of the roads and reduce their revenues. The public press has given wide circulation to all of this agitation and in many instances approved the same.

Fact 3. The railroads are stopping all unnecessary expenditures for this year. For instance, one road has stopped construction on 700 miles of new track.

We, the undersigned, in view of the above facts, call public attention to the present situation. We are the nearest to the railroads, and, therefore, know the situation, and are the first to be affected.

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## CARTER PLAYS ROLE OF COURT JESTER.

(Continued from First Page.)

that his distinguished friend from Alachua was possessed of the ability to make black appear as white, if he chose so to do. He said that Mr. Carter would make it appear that the wholesale men of this and other States stood like hawks, ready to seize upon the retailer as prey at any and all times; this could not be true, for the wholesale merchant depended for his success upon the success of the retail merchant, and the bill was aimed only at the dishonest retailer, who was a menace not only to the wholesaler but to the business world in general.

Mr. Reese, in replying to the proposition laid down by Mr. Carter that it was not right to restrict the sale of merchandise in the open market, affirmed that it was perfectly right to restrict such sale if there was a likelihood that the sale was fraudulent. Mr. Carter had said that if a fraudulent sale was made the creditors had recourse in attachment. Mr. Reese asserted that the creditor was generally "up against it" when he attempted to prove fraudulent intent under such circumstances, and that as a rule the creditors were willing to lose outright rather than attempt to recover through process of law in such cases. "We have already perfected our laws in regard to the sale of real estate," said Mr. Reese, "for the title remains in the vendor until the land is paid for." Twenty-six States in the Union, he said, have a law similar to the one which he proposed, and it was in the interest not only of the business men in the State, but of the consumers as well, for the losses of the merchant were such now that they had to figure on an additional profit of from three to five per cent. to cover losses sustained by the fraudulent sale of goods, which the measure sought to correct.

It is understood that the measure has the indorsement of the credit men's associations generally, and from the vote which defeated the motion to indefinitely postpone it seems probable that the bill will pass the House. After being amended in some minor particulars it went to the committee to be engrossed.



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## BY THE WAY

Peter Knight has confidence in the Senate. At least it looks that way, because he did not take the trouble to come up to the Capitol yesterday afternoon and see if everything was in running order.

Probably he will look in for a few minutes this morning, and observe if things are being conducted to his satisfaction.

There is quite a little business on hand to-day. The life insurance bill is a special order for 12 o'clock, and the uniform text book bill has its turn an hour earlier, therefore Peter may remain longer than usual.

Rumor has an unhappy way of gliding about and digging up things, and one of the most hard-working rumors at present is that of a booze parlor which is running the famed thirst-quenching bazar of Peter Knight a close race.

It is said to be much higher than that of Peter's. Not in a moral way, but still it is above his, because it is on the second floor.

This same R. U. Mor says that only anti-divisionists or prospective antis are welcome to the toddies therein dispensed.

Railway assessments have been raised about \$15,000,000 in Alabama, indicating that the cry of "unjust, unfair and not applicable to the State at the present time" possesses no force in the State that would like to own Pensacola as a seaport.

Some day the people of Florida will forget to elect any of the railroad bunch and then the howl of unfairness to corporations will not be heard in the Legislative halls.

Nightly at the Tallahassee City Market cats of various degree and condition, from pets to vagrants, roam inside the market, here and there chasing an appetizing morsel of flyblown meat.

No effort seems to be made to prevent these ignorant cats from eating the impure meat, and if some protector is not afforded the innocent felines there will be lapses of many a household joy—not cataplexy, but catastrophe, though some may argue what does a catamount to anyway?

Dignity of the Investigating Committee appears on the downward scale, though some might say that the chairman has enough dignity for all. First, it was pleasantly referred to as the "Mole Club," and some persons snickered at such rudeness, but now, when it is spoken of as the "Two-Eyed Committee," there are none so humble as to bare heads in token of respect.

## OH! WHAT WILL THE GOVERNOR DO?

One of those purely local bills was railroaded through the Legislature yesterday that will make the Jacksonville politicians sit up and take notice.

It was a bill abolishing the Board of Bond Trustees and the Board of Public Works of the city of Jacksonville, and creating a new Board of Bond Trustees, consisting of the Mayor (ex officio) and eight citizens elected by the people, to perform the functions of both boards.

At the election to be held next June, eight members of the Board of Bond Trustees are to be elected, the four receiving the highest number of votes to hold office for four years, and the four receiving the next highest number of votes to hold office for two years.

Representative Farris and Senator Buckman were the putters through of this measure, but it must have been agreed on by the three Duval County members, as it went through like a greased cat in a blind alley.

## ST. CLAIR-ABRAMS AND TAYLOR.

Pleaded Guilty to Libel of Ex-Governor Jennings, and Are Fined.

Former Governor Jennings was yesterday fully exonerated from the charges made against him as a public servant.

In the Criminal Court of Record of Duval County, Alfred St. Clair-Abrams and A. K. Taylor pleaded guilty to charges of criminal libel, contained in an editorial written by Abrams and a cartoon made by Taylor, both of which appeared in an issue of the Tavares Herald last summer.

Abrams was sentenced to pay a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars, and Taylor's fine was one hundred and fifty dollars. Costs were added to the fines.

Taylor's fine will, no doubt, be paid by Abrams, as he was the principal. Taylor drew the cartoon at Abrams' solicitation, and was only an employee, carrying out the order of his employer.

Mr. Jennings has been pressing this case since he first made the charge, and Abrams has been fighting for delay. The unexpected happened when the defendants pleaded guilty, as repeated promises of sensations at the trial have been made by Abrams and his father, who was leading counsel for the defense.

## FUN, FROTH AND FOOLISHNESS.

That the "session" of the Third House would attract a large attendance last night was fully expected, and there was no disappointment, for everybody seemed to be there, including a large attendance of women. Everybody seemed to have a mighty good time, and the usual nonsense and foolishness prevailed.

The Third House was called to order by Harry Fannin and Col. Nat Walker was elected temporary chairman.

The balloting for Speaker of the House resulted in the election of A. S. York to this irresponsible position.

Nat Walker and John R. Willis were elected reading clerks, the latter being the assistant. Hon. Ion L. Farris was chief clerk, and the pages were Senator Crews and Representative DuPont.

Multitudinous resolutions and bills were introduced and were passed. In each and all of them there was evidenced much familiarity with House proceedings, and a fair sprinkling of wit and humor. It was half after 10 o'clock when the last resolution was introduced and adopted, after which adjournment was taken until next time.

## REPRESENTATIVE DUDLEY ILL.

Mr. Dudley of Hillsborough is confined to his room on account of illness. He is suffering from continued fever, and will probably be absent from the House for a few days.

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